

REMARKS

In view of the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed on March 7, 2005, the response same as that filed on February 1, 2005 except for the portion as pointed out in the Notice and extension of time has been filed. If any fee is required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 11-0219.

In paragraph 1 of the Action, the disclosure was objected to. In view of the objection, the specification has been amended.

In paragraph 2 of the Action, claims 1, 4 and 7 were objected to. In view of the objection, claims 1, 4 and 7 have been amended.

In paragraph 3 of the Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morasse in view of Applicant's admission of prior art (AAPA). In this respect, new claim 9 has been added.

As stated in paragraph 3 of the Action, Morasse discloses a carriage, an X-ray source, and a cassette storage box, but does not disclose storage box locking means and locking release holding means. Also, AAPA teaches storage box locking means.

However, AAPA does not disclose the locking release holding means for holding the storage box locking means in a released state so that the storage box locking means is released from the locked state. In this respect, #55 of Fig. 8 was referred to in the Action.

In paragraph 0003 of the present specification, it is stated that "the hook 53 is always urged downwardly with a spring 55 provided on the carriage 51." Also, in paragraph 0006 of the specification, it is stated that "when the gateway of the cassette storage box 52 is opened or closed, the operator has to pull and tilt the cassette storage box 52 or push back the cassette storage box 52 with one hand while the operator needs to lift up the hook 53 with the other hand in order to keep releasing the hook 53 from the locked state." (emphasis added)

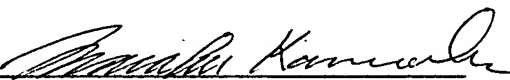
In the explanation of the specification, it is clear that the spring 55 is used to pull the hook 53 downwardly to engage a pin 54. Namely, the spring 55 has a function of engaging the hook 53 with the pin 54, as lock holding means, not locking release holding means. In claim 1, it is clearly recited that the locking release holding means is attached to the storage box locking means for holding the storage box locking means in a released state so that the storage box locking means is released from the locked state

The function of the locking release holding means of claim 1 is entirely different from the operation of the spring 55 in AAPA. The locking release holding means of the invention is not disclosed or suggested in AAPA. Accordingly, even if the cited references are combined, the present invention is not obvious from the cited references.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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